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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

CUENOUD ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: 10/696,488 FILED: OCTOBER 29, 2003

FOR: 2'-SUBSTITUTED NUCLEOSIDES AND OLIGONUCLEOTIDE

DERIVATIVES

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS REQUEST

Sir:

Applicants respectfully inquire as to the status of the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 104 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080 (862) 778-7898

Date: October 27, 2004

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